



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of January 25, 2011:

Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.: Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) work force is completing changeover from processing 4.2-inch mustard-filled mortars to 155mm projectiles. The mortar campaign ended in early January. In preparation for the restart of ANCDF operations, Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA) employees have delivered an initial shipment of the 100-pound projectiles. To date, ANCA employees have emptied 128 storage igloos on Anniston Army Depot. ANCDF employees have safely demilitarized 620,102 rockets, projectiles, land mines and mortars containing 2,022 tons of nerve agent or mustard agent.

Blue Grass Chemical Activity, Ky.: Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) continues the safe storage of 523 tons of chemical weapons. BGCA is storing the remaining U.S. inventory of M55 rockets that contain nerve agents GB and VX. BGCA is also storing projectiles with mustard agent H and nerve agents GB and VX. BGCA will continue to provide maximum protection to the community until demilitarization is complete.

Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah: Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) has safely destroyed 5,838 mustard agent-filled ton containers, 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles and 63,274 mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch mortars. Overall, TOCDF has processed more than 91 percent of the Deseret Chemical Depot's mustard agent stockpile, and more than 96 percent of the original agent tonnage.

Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.: Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) continues site closure activities including facility decontamination. On Jan. 13 and 20 the systems contractor, URS, hosted the Combination End of Operations and 4 Million Safe Man Hours celebration at PBCDF. All 38 Enhanced Onsite Containers (EONCs), which are no longer needed and have been released for unrestricted future use, have been prepared for shipment to the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant. The first of the EONCs were loaded on Jan. 20 at the Container Handling Building.

Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo.: Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) stores mustard-filled munitions; 105 mm projectiles and cartridges, 155 mm projectiles and 4.2-inch mortar cartridges. Current operations include leaker isolation operations and the installation of filters on all storage igloo doors and stacks within the Chemical Limited Area. Construction has begun on a company fire station at PCD to support the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant. The concrete slab was poured on Dec. 22 and structural steel is scheduled to arrive early this month. The tentative completion date for the fire station is July 15.

Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.: Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) continued installation and testing of its Rinsate Collection System to process agent-related liquid wastes through the plant's Liquid Incinerator System. UMCDF has eliminated 1,244 ton containers of mustard agent and destroyed 66 percent of Umatilla's original chemical agent stockpile, up from 64 percent last month.

TOCDF Workers Reach 11,111,111 Man-Hours Without a Lost Workday Injury

Jan. 11, 2011 was a momentous day for the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF). Not only was the date of 1/1/11 significant because it involved all ones, but TOCDF reached a goal with its own significance involving the number one – **11,111,111 consecutive man-hours without a lost workday injury.** After TOCDF achieved the goal of 10 million man-hours worked without a lost workday injury last July, General Manager Gary McCloskey said he needed another significant milestone to keep his work force motivated and vigilant about safety.

"I wanted to pick a number that had some pizzazz to it, so I picked 11,111,111 hours built around the theme that safety is number one," McCloskey said. *"It's a tremendous, tremendous achievement."*

No one predicted or calculated that the accomplishment would be made on 1/11/11. The milestone also marks more than five years without a lost workday due to an injury on the job. The last lost workday occurred on 25 October 2005, when an

employee missed a day of work because he twisted his knee during an emergency response exercise. That injury stopped the clock at 3.5 million man-hours.

TOCDF's ultimate goal is to finish the project and destroy all remaining chemical agent without another lost workday injury, but McCloskey decided to set an interim goal to make it interesting for his work force. He is hoping they will be able to meet 13,500,000 man-hours and is using the slogan *"The Drive to 13.5"* to stress the continued need for safety. The 13,500,000 hours will take the site through the year and possibly to the end of operations.

"Safety is and has always been our number one priority at CMA," said CMA Director Conrad Whyne. *"We are proud of each and every employee at TOCDF and all the sites that continue to be vigilant about safety for each other, the community and the environment."*

CMA Hosts Biannual Leadership Conference

On Jan. 25-27, 2011, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) held another one of its long-standing quarterly Leadership Conferences. CMA headquarters and site management attended the event, which was held at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground-Edgewood Area, Md. CMA Director Conrad Whyne hosted the conference. Speaking of the event, he said, "These face-to-face meetings of CMA leadership help ensure that directors and managers have the same vision and understanding of CMA's future. With that clear understanding, we can move forward with confidence."

The topics for this year's conference included site transition and staff updates. Separate sessions for commanders and site project managers were included this year as well.

In addition to the headquarters and site management, public affairs officers (PAO) from each site were on hand. The PAOs

attended the regular session and held their own breakout session with CMA headquarters PAO personnel to discuss the status of outreach at their respective sites. Additional topics included Anniston reuse as well as milestones within the program.

Whyne concluded the event by thanking everyone, *"Our job now is to accurately relay the CMA vision to site personnel. Coordination and communication are critical to CMA successfully completing its missions—safe storage and destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile can only be accomplished if every member of CMA understands and is dedicated to that vision."* Whyne stated, *"It is the dedication of every CMA team member, government and contractor that has brought us this far, and that will take us successfully forward; creating a safer tomorrow, today."*

UMCDF CHARGES FORWARD IN MUSTARD AGENT CAMPAIGN

Everyone loves a good challenge and workers at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) have stepped up to the plate. **With 1,200 tons of mustard agent remaining at the site, recent approval from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has allowed the facility to increase their processing rate to 100 percent, up from the previous 75 percent.** This increase puts the facility right on target to finish mustard agent incineration by year's end, *well before the required Chemical Weapons Convention treaty date of April 2012.*

"We have completed the required steps to safely ramp up the destruction of the remaining chemical mustard agent stored at the Umatilla Chemical Depot," said Gary Anderson, U.S. Army site project manager at the UMCDF.

Umatilla began its final agent campaign destruction of its 2,339 tons of mustard, in summer 2009. A quarter of the mustard agent was destroyed by November 2010.

In addition to ramping up its processing rate, UMCDF continues the process safely by completing more than 7.7 million man-hours without a lost-time injury, no doubt due to the hard-working, dedicated work force.



Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) workers Dustin Kinney and Joseph Wells collect broken concrete in the Chemical Treatment Facility so that it can be tested for chemical agent contamination. Concrete sampling is required before demolition can begin. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Army)

Utah Approves Concrete Sampling Methods at CAMDS

Closure of the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) has cleared another major hurdle: approval of concrete sampling methods. State regulators gave the go-ahead last month; CAMDS workers have since completed concrete sampling in the Chemical Test Facility (CTF).

Preliminary results indicate the concrete in the CTF is not contaminated with chemical agent. The results clear the way for the Unventilated Monitoring Test (UMT) of the CTF, which is scheduled to take place in early February, pending approval by state regulators. The UMT is the final step that needs to be accomplished before a facility can be demolished.

To develop its concrete sampling methods, Team Deseret looked to Environmental Protection Agency guidelines, as well as concrete sampling methods used at the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (JACADS), the U.S. Army's first incineration site to safely destroy its stockpile and close its facility. Team Deseret's concrete sampling methods will not only be used for CAMDS closure, but also for TOCDF and to help determine if DCD's igloos are agent-free before being handed over to the Tooele Army Depot.

"The approval of our concrete sampling methods has a big impact on the entire site's closure efforts," said CAMDS Site Project Manager Jerry Linn.

The concrete sampling locations are selected in two ways: random and judgmental, which pinpoints cracks, stains or other irregular marks in the concrete that could indicate chemical agent contamination.

Once several areas are selected to be sampled, the epoxy paint is removed and the concrete is broken up using a small jack hammer. The broken concrete is then collected and sent to the lab for analysis. Only those areas that were exposed to possible liquid chemical agent will undergo concrete sampling and workers are currently conducting sampling in the Explosive Containment Cubicle.

"With the approval of the concrete sampling methods, things are really going to pick up and soon CAMDS closure is going to be full speed ahead," Linn assured.

Decontamination and disassembly work continues in several CAMDS facilities. The closure plan for CAMDS entails decontaminating and disassembling all CAMDS facilities before demolition can begin.

The target date to have all CAMDS facilities ready for demolition is January 2012.

CMA Q&As

What is the CES?

CES is an acronym for the **Civilian Education System**; a set of courses that help prepare civilians for positions within the Army that require increased levels of responsibility. The CES includes the following courses: *foundation course, basic course, intermediate course, advanced course and continuing education for senior leaders*. Each course varies in length of time and is offered through the Army Management Staff College. If you are interested in this program, visit <http://www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil> for more information, or contact Mike O'Brien at 410-436-7238.



Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility during closure. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Army)

Which CMA sites have completed closure, and what is complete closure?

Three of CMA's sites have achieved complete closure:

- Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (2007)
- Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (2009)
- and Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (2010)

Achieving Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure involves a three-stage process that typically takes years. First, the permitted facility must prepare and receive regulatory agency approval for its closure plan. Second, the facility must then closely follow the plan as it decontaminates and disposes all of its contaminated equipment and any contaminated soil. The plan specifies a sampling analysis program for potentially contaminated materials at the site, and it establishes a set of reporting procedures. Third and finally, the facility submits a closure report to the agency confirming that all contaminated material has been properly removed or remediated, and verifying that all the procedures in the closure plan were followed. Once the RCRA agency validates the closure report, it generates a letter to CMA stating that closure is complete.

Munitions to be destroyed...

as of Jan. 25, 2011:

CMA has 43,726 chemical agent munitions left to destroy

- 2,060 HD/H ton containers
- 536 HT 4.2-inch mortars
- 211 HD 4.2-inch mortars
- 23,064 HD 105mm projectiles
- 17,841 HD/H 155mm projectiles
- 14 L/GA/TGA ton containers

BE PREPARED FOR HARSH WINTER CONDITIONS

Harsh winter conditions can result in your vehicle getting stuck in snow and ice, or breaking down. Make sure you are prepared by keeping the following items in your vehicle: *jumper cables, flares, gloves, candles, lighter or matches, blankets, flashlight, fresh batteries for the flashlight, oil, antifreeze, non-perishable food, water, sand or kitty litter, shovel, boots, charged cell phone, ice scraper, white rag and first aid kit.*

If you get stuck—tires spinning on ice—use the sand or kitty litter to provide traction. If you get stuck in a snow drift, do not run the engine while you wait in the car for help to arrive unless you have ensured that the exhaust pipe is clear. Running the engine to keep warm could force exhaust fumes into the car and you could be overcome by carbon monoxide.

If your vehicle breaks down, use your emergency flashers or flares to ensure the car is visible, stay in the car with the doors locked and the white rag hanging out the window. This is a signal that you need help. Do not try to flag down vehicles. If your cell phone is charged, call for help; otherwise, wait for someone to see you. When they offer help, ask them to call the police for assistance.

By maintaining a prepared car kit, you will be able to stay comfortable until help arrives.